

The David R. Haring House  
202 Old Tappan Road  
Borough of Old Tappan  
Bergen County, New Jersey

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PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District of New Jersey

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Seymour Williams, F.A.I.A., District Officer  
133 Central Avenue, Rahway, New Jersey

The David R. Haring House  
202 Old Tappan Road  
Borough of Old Tappan  
Bergen County, New Jersey

Owners (and occupants): Mr. and Mrs. William Blauvelt

Dates of Erection: Main unit and one wing about 1807;  
roof of wing raised to main roof line and a  
one story wing added about 1900

Architect:

Builder: David R. Haring (1786-1846) original owner

Present Condition: Poor; no modern plumbing or  
heating systems

Number of Stories: Two in main house and, by altera-  
tion, in one wing; one story in other  
(modern) wing. Cellar under first and last.

Materials of Construction:

Foundation - red sandstone, trap rock and  
fieldstone

Exterior walls - timber frame, clapboarded

Interior walls - frame studding, lathed and  
plastered

Chimneys - brick built inside gable end  
walls

Roof - gable

Historical Data:

The identification of this frame farmhouse  
by discovery of the names of its original and succeeding  
owners is reported as follows, the result of search of  
title as recorded in the County archives.

The immediate clue, a solitary gravestone  
inscribed "In Memory of David R. Haring who departed

this life November 10, 1846 aged 60 years 6 months and 11 days"(a), was found standing a short distance behind the house. The identity of this evidently one-time owner of the farm appears in a biographical account of G. R. Hering published in 1882(b) and quoted thus:

"The Hering (sic) family are of Holland ancestry. The progenitor of the branch to which the subject of this sketch belongs was Garret F. who resided at Pascack and was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Campbell, to whom was born one daughter, Rachel. She was married to David Hering<sup>(a)</sup> and had one son Ralph, born February 28, 1809, on the homestead in Washington, formerly known as Harrington township. He passed the early portion of his life on the farm of his grandfather, whom he succeeded as owner and cultivator of the family estate, and was married to Gertrude, daughter of Judge John R. Blauvelt of Old Hook, in the township before mentioned. They had children: Garret R. and Rachel Ann (Mrs. Aaron Rider) of Schraalenburgh". (etc.)

In support of the statements above quoted are the following evidences derived from the land and probate records.

In his will dated 25 October 1800 and proved 21 April 1807, Frederick Haring of Harrington, Bergen County, after providing for his wife Annetje, devised all his lands to his four sons, John, Garret, Harmanus and Abraham, equally divided, they to pay

(a) Davidt, b. 29 Apr. bapt. 4 June 1786 at Schraalenburgh son of Roelf Haring. (Records of the R. D. Churches of Hackensack and Schraalenburgh, publ. 1891, part II, 292). Cornelius, b. 9 Sept. 1800, son of Roelef Haring and wife Sarah Peek, was bapt. 23 Sept. 1800, per register of R.D. Ch. Hackensack. The will of Ruliff C. Haring, proved in 1837, names wife Sarah, sons Cornelius and David, daughters Margaret wife of Abraham F. Haring and Willempje wife of Henry Voorhis.

(b) Clayton, History of Bergen and Passaic Counties, N.J., 1882, opposite p. 244.

to his five daughters, Aultie, Dirickie, Rachel, Margaret and Mary, \$1000. Testator specified that his son Garret "shall have his share of land out of the easterly part of my land, all my land lying on the south and east side of the Road that leads to Tappan Town and all the land lying on the north and west side of the said Road and on the east side of a certain line which is a division line between him and my two sons Harmanus and Abraham which said division line shall begin on the east side of a certain barr about 15 or 16 yards east of the bridge, thence northerly to a black oak tree standing in the south bounds of the land of Johannes Haring deceased."

Testator devised his house to the sons Harmanus and Abraham, requiring that his wife Annetje "shall be and remain in my dwelling room and be maintained and supported" by the sons John, Garret and Abraham during her widowhood, she to have the personal estate which she brought at marriage. It is thus apparent that the house of this Frederick Haring\* is not the one here surveyed.

Difficulty in actually locating the lands devised as above and subsequently is caused by the fact that in none of the records of transfer by will or by deed until 1928 are the property lines given by surveyors courses and distances.

Garret F. Haring, son and devisee of the eastern part of the paternal farm in 1800 as above, resided in the same Harrington Township at the date of his will, 31 August 1836, and died before 2 February 1841, the date of its probate. He devised to his wife Sarah all his property during her widowhood and afterwards to his grandson Ralph D. Haring. To his great grandchildren, Garret R. and Rachel Ann, children of said Ralph D., was bequeathed \$500 each at the age of 21 years. Testator's daughter Rachel and her husband David R. Haring were not mentioned in the will, she be evidently deceased.

\*House on Old Tappan Road at Pearl River Road surveyed as NJ-487.

By deed of 16 July 1840, some six months previous to the probate, the residuary devisee, Ralph D. Haring and his wife Gitty (Gertrude), of Washington(c) Township, conveyed to his father, David R. Haring of same place, for \$8200 these three tracts of land: 21 acres in Harrington Township, bounded north and west by Hackensack River, south by land of Frederick I. Haring and by the public road from Pascack to Old Tappan, east by lands of John Haring Jr. and of Frederick I. Haring, being the tract on which stands the house here considered. A second tract, 100 acre farm of the late widow Elizabeth Haring decd., in Washington Township, and a third, 17 acres of clear and of wood land in the same township, were also transferred by this deed.

It can be assumed that by this conveyance grantor (to whom had been devised all the farm of his maternal grandfather Garret F. Haring) transferred to his father the title to the 21 acre part thereof on which the latter had erected his house, here surveyed, at the time of his marriage, about 1807.

David R. Haring is thus identified as the one of that name whose gravestone is found near this house as cited first above. By his will dated 5 November 1846 and proved 21 November following, David R. Harrington of Harrington Township, devised "one square acre" in the southwest corner of his lot adjacent to the land of James Holdrum in Washington Township to William, son of John Thorp of New York City, when of age, and ordered the executors to sell the 16 acres balance of that lot, and the 45 acres part of his farm, formerly of Abraham C. Haring decd., on the west side of the road from Washingtonville to Middletown, in same township.

To his son Ralph was devised a 4 acre meadow lot on the west side of Hackensack River, in lieu of "the goods and furniture, which I have kept in my possession, of his mother Rachel at the time of her death."

(c) Washington Twp. incorp. 1840 from Harrington Twp., restored 1844 to Harrington, reestablished 1845.

To his "present housekeeper Harriet Deyo, daughter of John Thorp of New York City" until her son David arrive at age 21 years or she be married, testator David R. Haring devised all his personal estate and the management and income of the remainder of his real estate, and possession thereof to her son thereafter, with reversion, in the event of his death without issue, to testator's son Ralph and sister Margaret, wife of Abraham I. Haring, and the said Harriet Deyo, equally divided so that all the buildings on the part of said farm whereon testator lived be in the share of the last named. A nephew Frederick A. Haring and John Thorp were named executors.

Eighteen years later, by deed of 24 February 1864 David D. Haring and Harriet Haring of Harrington Township (evidently the David and his mother named as Harriet Deyo in the will above cited) conveyed to John Snyder of Brooklyn for \$2730 "the homestead whereon the parties of the first part now reside and is part of the lands which were conveyed to David R. Haring by Ralph D. Haring and wife by deed dated July 16, 1840", being 21 acres bounded north and west by Hackensack River, south by land of John A. Demarest and the road from Pascack to Old Tappan, and east by land of John Haring Jr., excepting out of the tract 13 square feet "as a burying ground where David R. Haring is buried for the use of the family" of grantors.

This grantee, John Snyder, died 2 February 1907 in Rivervale Township having devised his real estate there equally to his son Philip and daughter Mrs. Joseph Flate and the balance to his son August and daughter Mrs. Ran Flate. By deed of 8 April next, Philip Snyder and wife, of Westwood, Bergen Co., conveyed to said Joseph Flate and wife, of the Borough of Old Tappan his half interest in the 19 acre residue of the 21 acre tract in the latter place, reciting the deed of 1864 from David D. Haring "and wife" to John Snyder, cited above.

Mrs. Flate, apparently occupying this house, died 8 May 1919 in that borough, having devised by will all her estate to her husband. He died there 19 May 1927, leaving as heirs, his widow Ann Flate, daughter Maggie Blauvelt and son William Flate, all of Old Tappan, and two children of a deceased daughter, Ella Hering.

In a deed of 10 December 1928, the widow released her dower rights in the property to the other four heirs, the remaining 10.76 of the 21 acres, describing it as having 1124.75 feet frontage along the northeast side of Old Tappan Road until it comes to Hackensack River, the west and north boundary of the tract.

At the time of our survey of the house in June 1941, William Blauvelt and his wife, she being one of the heirs abovenamed, owned and occupied the premises.

Reference:

Search of title in Bergen County land and probate records by James Hanlon, H.A.B.S. abstractor, reported 9 July 1941

*Lewis D. Cook*

Supervising Historian 10 July 1941

Approved:

*Seymour Williams*

SEYMOUR WILLIAMS, F.A.I.A.  
District Officer